31st July 1965] [Mr. Speaker.]

This House may take a serious view of the matter that in spite of the fact that the same question was raised on the floor of the House in 1962 and that the lapses on the part of the departments have been repeatedly pointed out in the various reports of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, the departments have not corrected themselves and realised their responsibilities. But, I cannot find any precedent in which such matters have been referred to the Privileges Committee or a decision has been taken as a breach of privilege. Therefore, I do not want to precipitate the matter, since the Legislature and the Executive are only two wings of the State. But I want to impress on the Hon. Ministers that they may issue suitable directions and see that the departments under their control place the rules framed pursuant to delegated legislation with the least possible delay on the table of the House and avoid such complaints, and that the departments may realise the gravity involved in such cases. There I leave it.

IV.—CALLING ATTENTION TO NON-AVAILABILITY OF PIG IRON

திரு. து. ப. அழகமுத்து: கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, "தமிழ் நாட்டில் உள்ள வார்ப்பட தொழிற்சாலைகள் தேனிரும்பு கிடைக்காத காரணத்தால் நன்கு இயங்க முடியாமல் இருக்கிற நிலை குறித்த அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தை கனம் தொழில் அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்கு 41-வது விதியின் கீழ்க் கொண்டு வருகிறேன்.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make the following statement:—

In order to distribute the available Pig Iron on an equitable basis, the Government of India introduced a scheme with effect from 1st April 1963, according to which each foundry would receive pig iron, during 1963–64, only to the extent of its annual requirement fixed by the respective sponsoring authority in suitable instalments. The Director of Industries and Commerce sponsored a total demand of 26,545 M. Tonnes of Pig Iron, against which only 9,553 M. Tonnes were allotted to the foundaries since the total demand in India was as high as 2 million tonnes, while the total production coupled with import stood at about 1.2 million tonnes. The Government of India stated that the pig iron quota for the Small Scale Foundries of the Madras State for the year 1964–65, has, however, been increased to 11,830 tonnes as against 9,553 tonnes allotted during 1963–64.

In August 1964 the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Coimbatore requested for the allotment of pig iron to the Engineering foundries in the Small Scale Industries in Coimbatore which were estab-

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lished after 1st November 1962 as these units were manufacturing pumpsets, motors, etc., intended for agricultural production. They also stated that the Government of India had programmed to import sizeable quantities from foreign countries and that the Madras State may be allotted increased quota. Accordingly, the Government of India were requested to allot pig iron quotas to Engineering Foundries in the Small Scale Sector even though they had been established after 1st November 1962. The Government of India stated that the total availability of pig iron (foundry grade) including imported pig iron during 1964–65 was estimated at 1.2 million tonnes as against an estimated demand of over two million tonnes and that it would not be possible to allot pig iron to the units established after 31st October 1962 until the supply position improved.

The allotment of pig iron is made to this State only from 1st March 1964 the date from which full control over pig iron was in force. This control relates to only 183 registered foundries in the State. For the year 1964–65 only an allotment of 11,830 tonnes has been made to this State for supply from the Bhilai Steel Plant. It is reported that the Iron and Steel Controller has recently issued instructions to the Bhilai Steel Plant for despatch of the pig iron.

The Director of Industries and Commerce has furnished the demand for 1965–66 as 24,716 M. tonnes. The Director has also stated that the recent instalment of the allotment of 6,500,000 M. tonnes of imported Russian pig iron is being distributed to the foundries in the State List. No imported pig iron was allotted to any foundry in the State previously. The allotment is on a pro-rata basis even for the Government foundries in the State List. Registered foundries which are not in the State List and which want allotment of pig iron, should have their names included in the State List maintained by the Director.

The Government of India have set up a panel to consider problems relating to the supply of pig iron to the foundry industry with special reference to the proper utilisation of the available quantities of pig iron. On 22nd May 1965 the Pig Iron Panel constituted by the Government of India came to Madras and held discussions with officers of this Government and private foundry owners. It has been impressed upon the panel that the capacity of the foundries in the State List may be fixed at 50,000 tonnes per annum. The Panel has accepted the clarification. The decision of the Government of India on the recommendation of the Panel is awaited.

This Government are taking necessary action to get increased allotment of pig iron for the State.